



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-8000

APR 27 2012

Dear Multifamily Housing Owners and Agents:

The Department of Housing and Urban Development is inviting all Multifamily owners and management agents (O/As) to join the Department in celebrating ***Father's Day 2012***. Last year, HUD and more than 200 PHAs across the country held Father's Day events in support of family reunification, fatherhood, and self-sufficiency. An estimated 22,000 fathers, children, mothers and others in the community came together to celebrate. This year, we invite O/As to participate in, by hosting or joining with a local PHA, a ***Father's Day 2012*** event on Saturday, June 16.

For the 2011 event, each of those PHAs worked with federal agencies, nonprofits, churches, and local businesses to host a celebration of fatherhood for residents and the surrounding community. Many events featured activities for the children (moon bounce, reading sessions, games) as well as resource tables for the Dads (job training, health, legal services). Now HUD and PHAs are preparing for June 16th, ***Father's Day 2012*** with the hopes of expanding this important event to HUD's multifamily properties.

The goal of these events is simple: reconnecting families and Dads. Studies on a child's well-being have shown that more than 24 million children live apart from their biological fathers. When children live in households absent their fathers, they are more likely to experience economic hardship, to have lower educational achievement, and to have more behavioral problems. Your ***Father's Day 2012*** celebration could be the first step in re-connecting fathers and their children.

This year, the Department is striving to encourage ongoing connection between fathers and children while simultaneously orchestrating local resources that enhance the father's capacity to be an economic and social asset. On Father's Day and beyond, we encourage O/As to partner with PHAs, agencies and individuals who can:

- Serve as a member of the owner's ***Father's Day 2012*** Planning Committee.
- Set up resource tables and share information on job training opportunities, health programs, mentoring, family support services, etc.
- Assist with set-up, facilitate activities, serve refreshments on the day of the event.
- Help to publicize Father's Day events in the local media.
- Work with the owners to plan family events post ***Father's Day 2012***.
- Donate or secure goods and other resources to support the event.

Please visit HUD's Father's Day webpage at www.hud.gov/fathersday2012 to watch a video on last year's event, enjoy photos, learn more about "Reconnecting Families and Dads", and to register your event.

We need your involvement in order to make Father's Day a success. We also encourage you to join with, or coordinate your efforts with local PHAs. If you would like to become involved, please contact Anthony Benjamin at (202)402-6661, or via email at Anthony.M.Benjamin@hud.gov, who can put you in contact with the local PHA.

Together we can help strengthen and position fathers as social and economic assets to enhance the lives of assisted housing children and youth.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Marie D. Head". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Marie" being more prominent.

Marie D. Head
Deputy Assistant Secretary for
Multifamily Housing Programs